

AL-1-C-019
Roman Reckley Log House
Gorman Road
Keifers, Maryland
ca. 1846

The coming of the C & O Canal attracted settlers to the sparsely populated southeastern corner of Allegany County. In 1847, Everhart Reckley bought a large tract known as "Fertile Meadow" and built this log house there. His descendents built two other log houses on the farm and worked the same land for over one hundred years. Although wall coverings and a frame addition have hidden the original log walls, they have been uncovered and replastered in a handsome second-floor bedroom.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Roman Reckley Log House
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Reckley Flat, Gorman Road

CITY, TOWN
Keifers

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Sixth

STATE
Maryland

COUNTY
Allegany

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Donald R. and Alice Heinrich

Telephone #: 724-4218

STREET & NUMBER
310 Pulaski Street

CITY, TOWN
Cumberland

☐ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
Maryland, 21502

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Allegany County Courthouse

Liber #: 255
Folio #: 193

STREET & NUMBER
30 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN
Cumberland

STATE
Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

AL-I-C-019

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Roman Reckley Log House is located south of Gorman Road near Keifers, Maryland.

The building is rectangular, two story, five bays wide structure built in two sections. The frame addition is slightly taller than the log original. Wall construction of the original is logs with "V" notching covered with board and batten on the northeast, shiplap on the northwest and German siding on the southwest. The frame addition is covered with German siding. The shiplap siding in the gable of the northwestern facade is diagonal. Cornerboards are on the corners of the building.

The building, original and addition, rests on a random rubble stone foundation. The roof is gable flank with tar paper on the original and ribbed tin on the addition. The eaves consist of a box cornice, soffit, and bed moulding. Three brick chimneys are all replaced and are located inside end, outside end, and interior.

Windows of the house are pegged, double hung, 2/2 light, two wooden sash, with plain shouldered frames and wooden lugsills.

The front porch is shed with hipped ends. There are six decoratively cut wooden posts supporting the porch roof. The shed roof rear porch has been partially enclosed to form a kitchen and porch. It is covered with German siding.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES late 1840's

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Everhart Reckley

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The tract of land known as "Fertile Meadow" was conveyed in a patent from the State of Maryland to a "gentleman" of Montgomery County, Lawrence O'Neale. O'Neale was probably an absentee owner. In another deed, not directly concerning this property, there is mention that O'Neale had "Fertile Meadow" surveyed before he owned it, in 1790. ¹

The isolated existence of families farming the general area was enlivened in the mid-nineteenth century when construction on the adjacent C & O Canal passed through the area. ² The coming of the canal attracted settlers including the Reckley family whose name was given to the large flat meadow known as Reckley Flat.

Everhart Reckley bought the farm in 1847 and built a log house. This was the first of several log houses built in the neighborhood. In 1881 the farm was divided between Everhart's sons William E. and James Roman. Roman eventually occupied the house built by his father in the southeastern corner of the tract. ³

Roman's children divided his half of the farm into fifths which were pieced together by his son-in-law, Oliver Robertson during the 1920's. ⁴

The log portion of the house has been obscured by an addition on the southeast and different types of wall coverings on other sides. The logs are visible on the interior second floor. A slightly larger frame addition is covered with German siding.

The building is structurally sound and serves as a reminder of the prosperity and resourcefulness of area farmers of the nineteenth century.

1. Allegany County Land Records, Liber 3, Folio 313; Liber 3, Folio 341
2. Harry Stegmaier, Jr. Allegany County-A-History (Parsons, W. Va: McClain Printing Co., 1976) pp. 258-9.
3. Allegany County Land Records Liber 55, Folio 458; Liber 93, Folio 443
4. Ibid Liber 134, Folio 629; Liber 138, Folio 39; Liber 249, Folio 350

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Allegany County Land Records

Stegmaier, Harry et al. Allegany County- A History Parson, West Virginia:
McClain Printing Co., 1976.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 80 Acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

David A. Dorsey

ORGANIZATION

Allegany County Historic Sites Survey

STREET & NUMBER

3-33 Pershing Street

CITY OR TOWN

Cumberland

DATE

6/13/78

TELEPHONE

777-5944

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

INVENTORY NO: AL-I-C-019DATE: 7/8/78REMODELING: Drastic, moderate, minorNAME OF PROPERTY: Roman Reckley Log HouseLOCATION OF PROPERTY: Gorman Road, Reckley FlatDIRECTION DWELLING FACES: 240° SouthwestNAME OF OWNER: Donal R. and Alice HeinrichADDRESS: 310 Pulaski StreetCumberland, Maryland 21502

STORIES: 1() 2(X) 3() 4() 5() 6() BAYS: 1() 2() 3() 4() 5(X) 6() 7() ()

WINGS, ADDITIONS: Two bay square frame - "German" siding, shed roof porch enclosed on northeast.DWELLING SHAPE: (square, cross, rectangular)

WALL CONSTRUCTION:

- () FRAME: Bevel, clapboard, weatherboard, wood shingles, board & batten (type?)
() BRICK: Bond type - common, English, Flemish. Sketch variants.
() STONE: Bond type - rubble, ashlar (random or regular), quoins-plain, rusticated
(X) LOG V notching
(X) OTHER: Coverings

WALL FEATURES: Belt Course, Pilasters, Others CornerboardsFOUNDATIONS: High, Low, Brick, Stone Random rubble on original and additionWATER TABLE: None, Plain, Beveled, Moulded BrickWINDOWS, TRIM, SHUTTERS: 1/1() 2/2(X) 6/6() 9/6() 9/9() other() Plain shouldered frames
pegged(X) nailed() wide() narrow() mitred() pediment() woodenENTRANCE, DOORS: LOCATION: Center of southwest facade on original one light. lugsillsHARDWARE: original() replaced(X)

FAN LIGHT, TRANSOM, SIDE LIGHTS, PLAIN

4 Paneled, Vertical, Horizontal Boards

Box

CORNICE, BARGE, EAVES: (crown, fascia, soffit, bed)original() replaced(X) rafter ends, modillions, dentils, frieze, architraveTar paper on originalROOF: Gable front, Gable flank, Hip, Shed, Mansard, Gambrel, Flat, Dormers # MATERIAL: wood shingles, slate, (tin) asphalt; original() replaced(X)(Ribbed on addition)

PORCHES: SHAPE OF ROOF - shed(X) hip() gable() Hipped ends. Six decorative wooden posts.

CHIMNEYS: Number: 3 Brick(X) Stone() Corbeled(1) original() replaced(1)
Location: Flush end() Inside end(1) Outside end(1) Central() Interior(1)ARCHES: Door & Windows: Keystone, Flat, Segmental, SemicircularGerman siding on addition, original south-eastern wall German siding, northwestern wall shiplap siding, diagonal in gables, north-eastern wall vertical board and batten

COMMENTS:

USE: ResidenceSIGNIFICANCE: ArchitectureDATE CONSTRUCTED: CONDITION: Excellent

FLOOR PLAN:

- () CENTRAL HALL: Two rooms, each side; double parlor, one side
- () SIDE HALL: One room deep, two rooms deep
- () IRREGULAR

STAIRWAYS:

- () ENCLOSED: Single flight, two flights with landing
- () OPEN: Single flight, two flights - one landing, three flights - two landings
- () DOG-LEG
- () DOG-LEG with WINDERS
- () SPIRAL
- () ROUNDED
- () SYMMETRICAL DIVIDED FLIGHTS

WALL FINISH:

- () PLASTER
- () PANELED: original; replaced
- () BOARD PARTITION: baseboard, cornice, chair rail, wainscot

FIREPLACES:

NUMBER _____
 LOCATION: parallel to walls, diagonal
 MANTELS: wood mouldings, pilasters, columns, masonry, marble

DOORS: paneled, board and batten, flush
 HARDWARE: original; replaced

DOOR & WINDOW TRIM:

- () PLAIN
- () ARCHITRAVE
- () SYMMETRIC with CORNER BLOCKS
- () FLUTED
- () FLUTED with CORNER BLOCKS
- () ARCHED OPENINGS: elliptical, tudor

NOTES:

TITLE SEARCH

AL-I-C-019
Roman Reckley Log House
Kiefers, Maryland

Allegany County Deed: Liber 355, Folio 193
Grantee: Donald R. Heinrich and Alice A. Heinrich (wife) Date: January 9, 1963
Grantor: Sunset View Real Estate & Development Co., Inc.

Allegany County Deed: Liber 337, Folio 593
Grantee: Sunset View Real Estate & Development Co., Inc. Date: August 9, 1961
Grantor: Alonzo E. Moore and Edna M. Moore (wife)

Allegany County Deed: Liber 312, Folio 368
Grantee: Alonzo E. Moore Date: July 10, 1959
Grantor: Oliver H. Robertson

Allegany County Deed: Liber 249, Folio 350
Grantee: Oliver Robertson and Carrie M. Robertson (wife) Date: February 21, 1953
Grantor: Ernest M. Heflin et al
Notes: One-fifth interest in Roman Reckley Farm

Allegany County Deed: Liber 138, Folio 39
Grantee: Oliver H. Robertson and Carrie M. Robertson (wife) Date: September 9, 1921
Grantor: Albert T. Reckley
Notes: Two-fifths interest in Roman Reckley Farm

Allegany County Deed: Liber 134, Folio 629
Grantee: Oliver H. Robertson and Carrie M. Robertson (wife) Date: July 21, 1920
Grantor: Clem Reckley et ux
Notes: One-fifth interest in Roman Reckley Farm
Carrie Robertson (nee Reckley) held one-fifth interest. These three deeds gave Oliver and Carrie Robertson full title to Farm.

Allegany County Deed: Liber 93, Folio 443
Grantee: James R. Reckley Date: September 7, 1903
Grantor: William E. Reckley
Notes: Southeast end of "Fertile Meadow" where James R. lives

Allegany County Deed: Liber 55, Folio 458
Grantee: William E. Reckley - James Roman Reckley Date: September 14, 1881
Grantor: Everhart Reckley
Notes: Parts of "Fertile Meadow", Bladges Hollow" and one other part of "Fertile Meadow" where Everhart lived.

Allegany County Deed: Liber 3, Folio 313
Grantee: Everhart Reckley Date: April 1, 1847
Grantor: James Smith (Trustee) Consideration: \$771.82
Notes: All of Fertile Meadow - Trustee from equity between two Eliza O'Neales.
Smith sold land at public sale to John Gorman who failed to pay full price.
In 1847, this deed, land was sold for balance of purchase price. Lawrence O'Neale obtained land in a patent from the State of Maryland December 10, 1794.

Title Search continued for Roman Reckley Log House AL-I-C-019

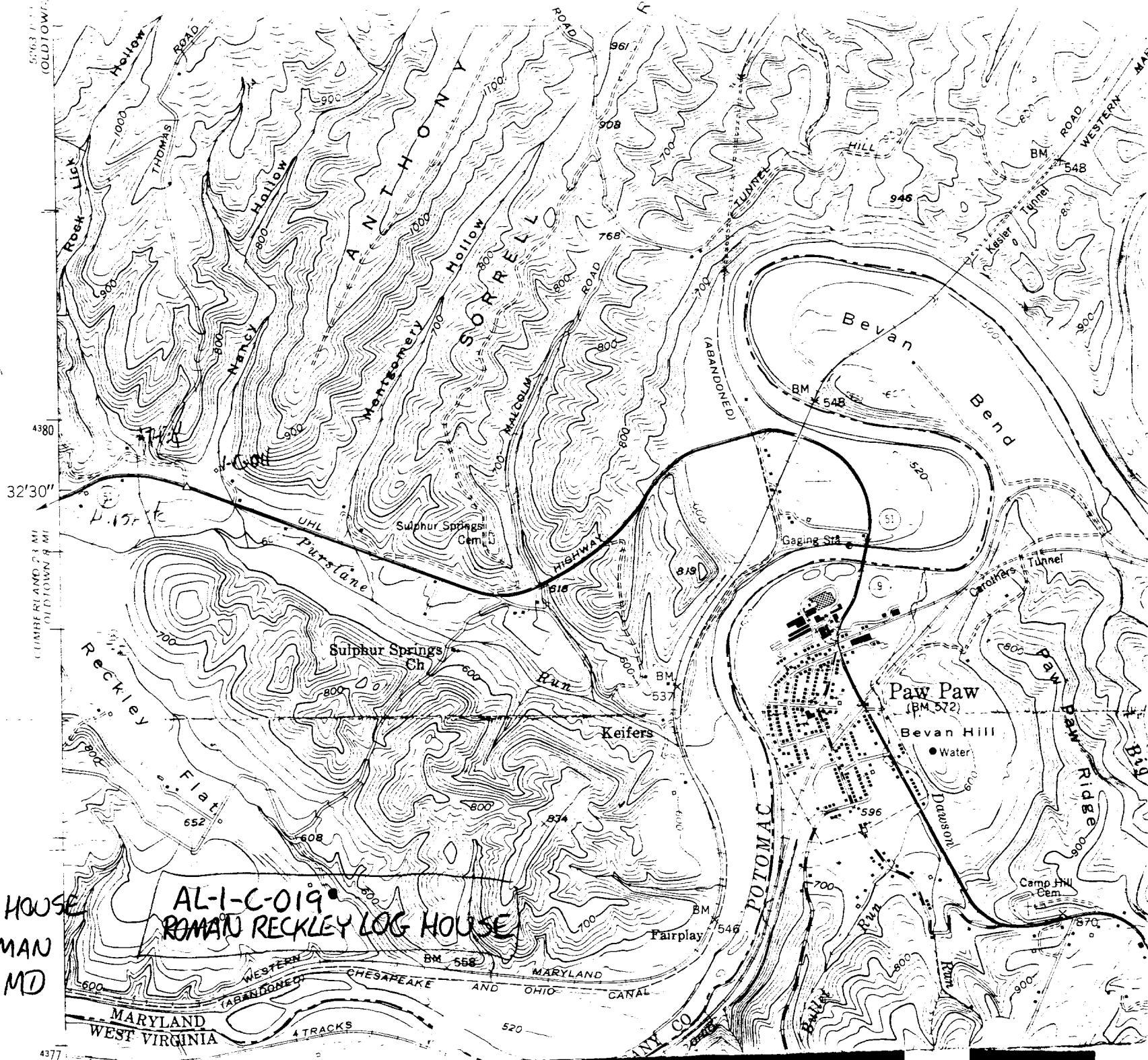
Allegany County Deed: Liber 3, Folio 341

This deed concerns another O'Neal property but mentions that he had "Fertile Meadow" surveyed June 7, 1790. He is identified as a gentleman from Montgomery Count, Maryland.

Significance continued for Roman Reckley Log House

AL-I-C-019

4. Ibid Liber 134, Folio 629; Liber 138, Folio 39; Liber 249, Folio 350



AL-1-C-019
 ROMAN RECKLEY LOG HOUSE
 RECKLEY FLAT, GORMAN
 ROAD, KEIFERS, MD
 PAW PAW QUAD

1950



Roman Reckley Log House

AL-1-C-019

Gorman Rd. Keifers, MD

David A. Dorsey

7/8/78

EAST



AL-1-C-Q19

Roman Reckley Log House

Gorman Rd. Keifers, Md

David A. Dorsey

7/8/78

West